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GARLICK HARRISON
& MARKISON
P.O. BOX 160727
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In re Application of :
Jordan, et al. :
Application No. 10/723,706 : DECISION
Filed: 26 November, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. SIG000106 :

This is a decision on the petition (renewed) filed on 10 August, 2007, 2008, seeking to revive the application under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) as having been abandoned due to unintentional delay.

The petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) is **GRANTED**.

As to Allegations of
Unintentional Delay

The requirements of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) are the petition and fee therefor, a reply, a proper statement of unintentional delay under the regulation, and, where applicable, a terminal disclaimer and fee. (However, it does not appear that a terminal disclaimer and fee are due here.)

BACKGROUND

The record reflects as follows:

Petitioner failed to reply timely and properly to the Notice of Allowance/Allowability and Fees Due mailed on 5 March, 2007, with reply due under a non-extendable deadline on or before 5 June, 2007.

Petitioner submitted an authorization for payment of the fees due on 7 May, 2007, however, there were insufficient deposit account funds, and the Office mailed Notice of that condition on 8 May, 2007.

The application went abandoned by operation of law after midnight 5 June, 2007

The Office mailed the Notice of Abandonment on 29 June, 2007.

On 10 August, 2007, Petitioner filed the instant petition with fee, the reply in the form of fees due, and a statement of unintentional delay.

Out of an abundance of caution, Petitioners always are reminded that those registered to practice and all others who make representations before the Office are reminded to inquire into the underlying facts of representations made to the Office and support averments with the appropriate documentation—since all owe to the Office the continuing duty to disclose.¹

The availability of applications and application papers online to applicants/practitioners who diligently associate their Customer Number with the respective application(s) now provides an applicant/practitioner on-demand information as to events/transactions in an application.

As to Allegations of Unintentional Delay

The requirements under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) have been satisfied.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, The petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) is **granted**.

The instant application is released to Publications Branch to be processed into a patent in due course.

Petitioner may find it beneficial to view Private PAIR within a fortnight of the instant decision to ensure that the revival has been acknowledged by the Publications Branch in response to this decision. It is noted that all inquiries with regard to that change in status need be directed to the Publications Branch where that change of status must be effected—that does not occur in the Office of Petitions.

¹ See supplement of 17 June, 1999. The Patent and Trademark Office is relying on Petitioner's duty of candor and good faith and accepting a statement made by Petitioner. See Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure, 62 Fed. Reg. at 53160 and 53178, 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office at 88 and 103 (responses to comments 64 and 109)(applicant obligated under 37 C.F.R. §10.18 to inquire into the underlying facts and circumstances when providing statements to the Patent and Trademark Office).

While telephone inquiries regarding this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3214, it is noted that all practice before the Office is in writing (see: 37 C.F.R. §1.2²) and the proper authority for action on any matter in this regard are the statutes (35 U.S.C.), regulations (37 C.F.R.) and the commentary on policy (MPEP). Therefore, no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's action(s).



/John J. Gillon, Jr./
John J. Gillon, Jr.
Senior Attorney
Office of Petitions

² The regulations at 37 C.F.R. §1.2 provide:

§1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent and Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.